

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2, 10, and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A molecular manipulator, comprising:
a light-sensitive compound, said light-sensitive compound comprising:
two arms, each of said two arms comprising an azo double bond; and
a central fragment of said light-sensitive compound between said two arms,
which comprises a moiety, said moiety comprising a functional group selected from a group
consisting of a sulfide, a thiol, and an isonitrile, moiety—located between the two arms,
wherein said light-sensitive compound changes a *cis-trans*
configuration of the double bond in response to illumination by light of a selected wavelength;
and
a probe to which the light-sensitive molecule is attached.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the probe comprises one of
silicon, silicon oxide, aluminum oxide, and titanium oxide.
4. (Previously Presented) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the light-
sensitive compound is an azo compound.
- 5-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein each of the two arms includes a first end, which is bonded to the moiety, and a second end, which includes a functional group, R.

12. (Previously Presented) The molecular manipulator of claim 11, wherein the functional group, R, is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, a haloalkyl, an aryl, an alcohol, an ether, an amine, an aldehyde, a ketone, a carboxylic acid, an ester, and an amide.

13. (Currently Amended) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the moiety includes a functional group of the moiety group, which covalently bonds to the probe.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 13, wherein the probe is coated by a coating, to which the functional group of the moiety covalently bonds.

16. (Previously Presented) The molecular manipulator of claim 15, wherein the coating comprises a metal coating selected from the group consisting of gold, palladium, and platinum.

17. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 15, wherein the coating comprises one of trichlorosilane and trialkoxysilane, and the probe comprises a conductive metal oxide.

18. (Previously Presented) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein each of the two

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arms comprises a different length.

19-30. (Canceled)